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Dated: June 17, 2011
Electronic Signature for Sandra Szela Congdon: /Sandra Szela Congdon/

Docket No.: 2004P87070WOUS
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Joseph E. Zuback

Application No.: 10/599,350

Confirmation No.: 7252

Filed: March 24, 2005

Art Unit: 1778

For: PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR
PURIFYING IMPURE WATER USING
MICROFILTRATION OR
ULTRAFILTRATION IN COMBINATION
WITH REVERSE OSMOSIS

Examiner: D.R. Anderson

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114 (37 CFR 1.97(b)(4)).

No fee or certification is required.

PART II: Information Cited

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(ii), Applicant has not submitted copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits here with copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

PART III: Explanation of Non-English Language References and Remarks Concerning Other Information Cited

The following is a concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified):

CN1159769 appears to be directed to cleaning of hollow fibre membranes. An English Abstract is enclosed.

DE 19503060 appears to be directed to a method of cleaning beer filtration membranes. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP02-017925 appears to be directed to a method for backwashing hollow yarn membrane filter apparatus. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP05-305221 appears to be directed to a membrane separation water treatment apparatus. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP07-256253 appears to be directed to an installation for making water potable with a submerged filtering membrane. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP10-235168 appears to be directed to a filter cleaning method. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP2000-093758 appears to be directed to a fixing method for a cartridge type module and tank type filter. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP2000-157845 appears to be directed to a hollow fiber membrane cartridge and its fixing structure. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP2001-269546 appears to be directed to a rack-type filter. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP2002-336663 appears to be directed to a filtration apparatus. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP2003-265597 appears to be directed to a hemodialysis filter and filtering device. A full English translation is enclosed.

JP2003024751 appears to be directed to a hollow fiber membrane cartridge. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP2004-008981 appears to be directed to a membrane separation apparatus. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP2004337730 appears to be directed to a method for washing a membrane. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP2006-116495 appears to be directed to a filter device. A full English translation is enclosed.

WO2009030405 appears to be directed to a method for purifying substrates by means of oxidation agents and reduction agents. An English Abstract is enclosed.

WO 1993-15827 appears to be directed to a hollow yarn membrane. An English Abstract is enclosed.

The following are remarks concerning the other information cited:

PART IV: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.
2. The enclosed form be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application; and
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is “prior art” for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 50/2762, under Order No. M2019-7022US.

Dated: June 17, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

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